

DUN'S REVIEW

COMMERCIAL AND BANKING FAILURES FROM OFFICIAL RECORDS
COMMODITY PRICE INDEX ~ BANK CLEARINGS REPORTS

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SPECIAL FEATURES



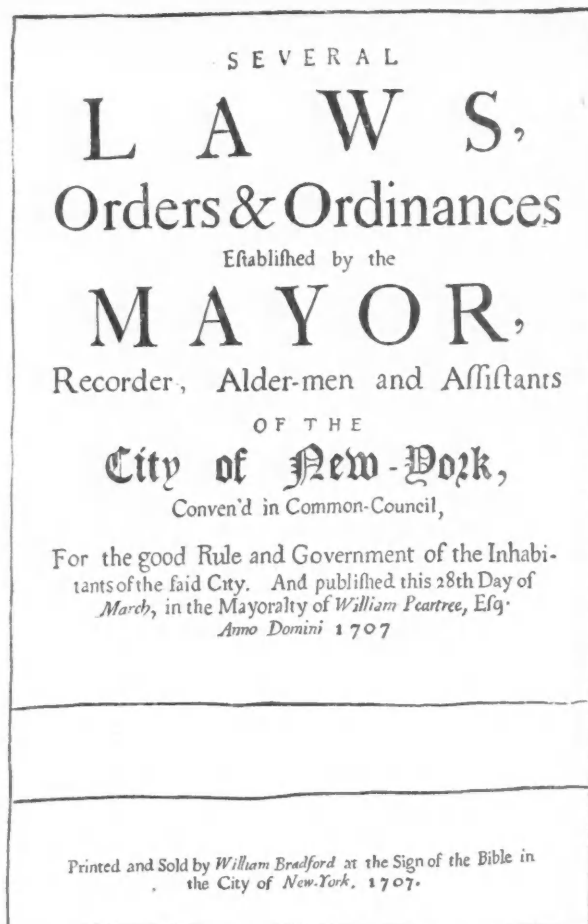
RECORD OF CANADIAN IN-
SOLVENCIESPAGE 3

READJUSTMENT IN RUBBER
INDUSTRYPAGE 10

Published by
R.G. DUN & CO.

The oldest and largest Mercantile Agency in the World

Established 1841



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*Reproduction of a paper dated 1707 relating to
local ordinances created by the governing body of
the City of New York*

The year this paper is dated, 1770, Broadway from Trinity Church to the Bowling Green was paved—for the first time. Negro slaves could be hired or bought at the market place at the foot of Wall Street, and a cage pillory and stocks stood before the City Hall at Coenties Slip where criminals were exposed to the jeers and scorn of the populace. The population was then only a little over 5,000 and during the ensuing 80 exciting and eventful years it slowly increased to 23,614.

In 1841 when The Mercantile Agency was founded the population was 696,115. In 1930, 90 years later, the U. S. Census credits New York City with 6,930,446 in-

habitants—a gain of 6,234,331 in the 90-year period.

As the population grew the needs of the business community were correspondingly increased. Trading rapidly acquired intricate and complexing aspects strangely foreign to the simple methods employed by our early colonial merchants.

The creation of The Mercantile Agency was a logical outgrowth of this period of expansion. How well the Dun System has served the Credit Community and the high value placed upon the service it renders is perhaps best indicated by its world-wide use and the increasing demands made upon its facilities daily.

R. G. DUN & CO.

THE MERCANTILE AGENCY

*The Oldest and Largest Mercantile Agency
in the World*

290 Broadway

New York City

ESTABLISHED 1841



DUN'S REVIEW

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY

R. G. DUN & CO., 290 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

THE OLDEST AND LARGEST MERCANTILE AGENCY IN THE WORLD

ESTABLISHED 1841

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TRADE REVIEW OF WEEK

Much of the business news of the week has been of a distinctly encouraging nature. In many regards, it has been the most stimulating week thus far this year, with good weather and the requirements of the Decoration Day holiday bringing exceptionally large crowds into retail stores in most parts of the country. Yard goods, boys' suits, and a variety of gift items were in good demand, followed closely by general lines of Summer apparel and sporting goods. While price competition among the stores is somewhat less severe, it continues on a scale larger than most retailers would like it.

Many of the more enterprising merchants, however, are finding ways of reducing the emphasis on price lines, and their efforts are meeting with no small degree of success. The formation of committees of leading bankers and industrialists to perfect plans for using the large funds being released by the central banking system to develop

business has been of particular significance in the encouragement it has diffused among the medium and smaller business units. Reports of further recovery continue to be received from most of the

smaller industries, as these give evidence of having aligned their operations with altered trends more quickly than most of the larger enterprises. The steel industry is hopeful of continuing at least at its present rate of operations for a while longer, due to the increased orders and inquiries for structural requirements and some expansion of railroad buying.

Although reports regarding employment in manufacturing districts are somewhat uneven, demand for

farm labor has shown a fully normal increase over the April record. Dealers in agricultural implements report a pick-up in demand for machinery and equipment. Automobile dealers, in the larger centers of distribution, report an upturn in sales.

DUN'S INDUSTRIAL INDICES

FACTORS REPORTED WEEKLY:

DUN REPORTS	1932	1931	P.C.
Bank Clearings.....	\$4,017,416,000	\$7,718,579,000	-48.9
Commodity Price Advances..	18	11	....
Commodity Price Declines...	31	31	....
Insolvencies (number).....	708	528	+34.1

INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY

†Crude Oil Output (barrels)...	2,225,350	2,437,150	-8.7
Electric Power Output (kwh)...	*1,435,731	*1,644,783	-12.7
Freight Car Loadings.....	517,667	747,067	-30.7

FACTORS REPORTED MONTHLY:

AGRICULTURE

‡Cotton Consumption (bales)...	367,260	508,091	-27.8
Cotton Exports (bales).....	544,563	391,871	+39.0

DUN REPORTS

Price Index Number.....	\$135.129	\$149.419	-9.6
Insolvencies (number).....	2,816	2,383	+18.2
Insolvencies (liabilities).....	\$101,068,693	\$50,868,135	+98.7

FOREIGN TRADE

Merchandise Exports.....	136,000,000	215,077,000	-36.3
Merchandise Imports.....	127,000,000	185,706,000	-31.6

INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY

Pig Iron Output (tons).....	852,897	2,019,529	-57.3
Steel Output (tons).....	1,239,811	2,722,470	-54.5
Unfilled Steel Tonnage.....	2,326,926	3,897,720	-40.3
Building Permits.....	\$20,448,511	\$82,010,120	-75.1

†Daily average production. ‡Domestic consumption. * (000) omitted.

BUSINESS FAILURES STILL HIGH

Business failures in the United States continue to be quite as heavy this week as they have been of late, the number reported by R. G. Dun & Co. being 708, against 720 last week, 662 the preceding week and 528 in this week a year ago. The record this year is exceptionally high for the latter part of May. Ordinarily, a decline of several points occurs in the failure figures between April and May, but this year the May figures are several points above the exceptionally high record for the preceding month.

This week's failures in the East and the West are more numerous than those of last week, but there is a decrease in the number this week in the South and for the Pacific Coast States. Of this week's failures in the United States, 486 had liabilities of \$5,000 or more in each instance, against 520 last week, 418 in the preceding week, and 318 last year.

Canadian failures this week, as reported by R. G. Dun & Co., numbered 44, against 47 last week, 45 the preceding week, and 29 last year.

SECTION	Week May 26, 1932		Week May 19, 1932		Week May 12, 1932		Week May 28, 1931	
	Over \$5,000	Total	Over \$5,000	Total	Over \$5,000	Total	Over \$5,000	Total
East	229	292	223	283	179	256	134	202
South	87	145	110	168	89	144	58	103
West	128	190	181	174	101	169	85	137
Pacific	42	81	56	95	49	93	41	86
U. S.	486	708	520	720	418	662	318	528
Canada	26	44	20	47	26	45	15	29

INSOLVENCY INDEX ADVANCES FURTHER

Dun's Insolvency Index for May is again somewhat higher. For the four weeks of that month it stands at 163.7, there having been a progressive advance each week for the month now closing. The Index is now considerably above the corresponding figures of last year. At 163.7 the Insolvency Index for May to date compares with 158.0 for the preceding month, 159.7 for March and 165.9 for February. A year ago Dun's Insolvency Index for May was 131.7 and was from 2 to 37 points lower than the figure for the three preceding months. Last year, as is quite customary, there was a progressive decline each month during that period, and business conditions were far from satisfactory at that time.

The Insolvency Index for May covering the average for the five years (1925 to 1929, inclusive), at 104.5 can reasonably be accepted as indicating a normal return for the past decade. The May Index for that time was 35 points lower than the January figures for that period. The January return is at the high point of the year. The May Insolvency Index this year is 38 points lower than January.

The May, 1922, Insolvency Index stood at 124.4 and was 49 points below January.

The figures printed below are computed on the basis of the number of commercial insolvencies to each 10,000 business firms in the United States:

	Monthly			5-Year Average 1925-29 Ratio	Monthly	
	1932	1931	1930		1922	1921
May to date.....	163.7	131.7	119.9	104.5	119.8	124.4
April	158.0	134.1	125.0	107.4	123.0	137.8
March	159.7	146.0	128.4	110.4	126.6	144.8
February	165.9	169.0	146.7	128.2	147.0	168.7
January	201.8	188.4	150.2	139.5	160.0	173.7
December	158.8	140.7	114.7	112.0	128.3	159.6
November	141.2	127.0	101.1	107.1	122.8	182.8
October	134.4	117.9	100.0	99.2	115.3	109.8
September	114.0	112.9	90.2	97.2	100.5	94.5

BANK CLEARINGS TRENDING LOWER

Bank clearings are again very much below preceding records. The total this week for all leading cities in the United States of \$4,017,416,000 is 48.0 per cent smaller than a year ago. At New York City, clearings were \$2,636,124,000, a reduction of 51.1 per cent, while the total for the cities outside of New York of \$1,381,292,000 was 41.7 per cent smaller.

The greater part of the reduction in bank clearings is at the large centers, where financial settlements predominate, among them New York, Chicago and Boston. At Philadelphia, too, clearings are very much less, but the loss at that city has been below that recorded elsewhere. At these four cities, where 80 per cent of the total clearings in the United States are recorded, the decline this week from a year ago is in excess of 50 per cent. The reduction for the other centers, covering about 20 per cent of the total, was approximately 31 per cent.

Clearings at leading cities, compared with those of last year, as compiled by R. G. Dun & Co., are printed herewith; also, average daily figures for each month this year:

	Week		Per Cent
	May 25, 1932	May 27, 1931	
Boston	\$188,000,000	\$360,000,000	-50.6
Philadelphia	247,000,000	400,000,000	-36.7
Baltimore	47,488,000	72,064,000	-34.1
Pittsburgh	74,638,000	129,980,000	-42.6
Buffalo	24,100,000	86,400,000	-33.8
Chicago	262,200,000	439,500,000	-54.0
Detroit	70,578,000	147,954,000	-52.3
Cleveland	61,968,000	94,840,000	-34.7
Cincinnati	39,080,000	53,186,000	-26.5
St. Louis	58,900,000	89,700,000	-34.3
Kansas City	57,676,000	80,315,000	-28.2
Omaha	22,481,000	31,012,000	-27.5
Minneapolis	45,000,000	52,000,000	-13.4
Richmond	25,670,000	32,777,000	-21.7
Atlanta	26,600,000	35,500,000	-25.4
Louisville	16,670,000	20,982,000	-20.6
New Orleans	21,806,000	35,609,000	-38.8
Dallas	23,107,000	33,775,000	-31.6
San Francisco	90,000,000	125,000,000	-28.0
Portland	17,160,000	31,926,000	-46.3
Seattle	21,165,000	26,084,000	-24.5
Total	\$1,381,292,000	\$2,380,724,000	-41.7
New York	2,636,124,000	5,387,855,000	-51.1
Total all	\$4,017,416,000	\$7,718,579,000	-48.0
Average Daily:			
May to date.....	\$759,723,000	\$1,397,741,000	-45.6
April	794,652,000	1,457,562,000	-45.5
March	970,338,000	1,409,172,000	-46.5
February	803,846,000	1,369,211,000	-42.1
January	996,005,000	1,414,552,000	-29.6

CANADIAN FAILURE ANALYSIS

Commercial insolvencies in the Dominion of Canada for the first quarter of 1932 reveal a slight increase of 1.5 per cent in number, but the liabilities declined 24.4 per cent in comparison with the same period of 1931. The number reported to R. G. Dun & Co., for the three months ending with March, was 757 failures, involving an indebtedness of \$12,922,676.

Although a small numerical increase is shown this quarter over 1931, the present figure of 757 failures is less than for the first quarter of 1930, when 789 failures were recorded. In the first quarter of 1924, a total of 785 defaults occurred and in the corresponding period of 1923 a total of 1,032 insolvencies was reported, which is 36.3 per cent in excess of the 1932 number. Some encouragement is present in the fact that the liabilities are the lowest reported in five years.

The Provinces of Ontario and Quebec report over 60 per cent of all business failures in Canada. A greater number of defaults are shown for the first quarter of this year for the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia, Nova Scotia and Alberta.

Substantial reductions appear for the Provinces of Manitoba, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan. The number is unchanged for Prince Edward Island and for Newfoundland.

The number of failures in the manufacturing class reveals a small decrease. Reductions appear in the machinery and tools division, lumber and building lines, the class embracing hats, gloves and furs, chemicals and drugs and the printing and engraving industry. Though there were fewer failures, the amount of indebtedness involved was greater by \$1,424,835.

Among traders, more failures occurred in eight of the fifteen separate branches of business this year than during the first quarter of last year. The largest increase appears in the clothing and furnishings group. There were no insolvencies of firms dealing in paints and oils. Contrary to the

trend of the manufacturing division, the liabilities for the trading classification fell somewhat below those for the first three months of 1931. Smaller amounts in six of the fifteen lines of business account for the reduced total.

There were 49 defaults in "other commercial" lines with liabilities of \$843,237. This is a notable decline from the \$5,743,173, the total for the combined months of January, February and March of last year.

CANADIAN FAILURES BY BRANCHES OF BUSINESS
FIRST QUARTER

Manufacturers	Number			Liabilities	
	1932	1931	1930	1932	1931
Iron, Found. & Nails	6	6	1	\$450,107	\$391,432
Machinery and Tools	6	12	7	245,632	303,037
Woolens, Carpets &c.	1	..	..	19,857	.....
Oottons, Lace & Hary.	..	..	1	.....	.....
Lbr., Bldg. Lines, &c.	18	23	26	1,192,426	608,860
Clothing & Millinery	23	20	33	688,525	510,799
Hats, Gloves & Furs	4	7	10	22,700	145,899
Chemicals and Drugs	1	4	3	5,174	79,599
Paints and Oils....	1	..	..	3,850	.....
Printing & Engraving	6	8	4	111,489	59,871
Milling & Bakers..	15	14	11	111,010	91,075
Leather, Shoes, &c.	8	7	20	386,920	188,180
Tobacco, &c.....	4	4	6	57,800	226,426
Glass, Earthw're, &c.	7	4	6	785,074	240,039
All Other.....	54	49	57	1,569,877	1,379,879
Total Mfg.....	154	158	185	\$5,649,941	\$4,225,106
Traders					
General Stores....	61	74	59	\$777,587	\$719,331
Groc. Meat & Fish.	91	115	111	507,276	979,913
Hotels & Restaurants	40	45	48	239,714	899,223
Tobacco, &c.....	5	7	9	18,962	37,704
Clothing & Furnish'g	105	72	79	1,191,596	586,468
Dry Goods & Carpets	44	53	53	435,030	1,513,213
Shoes, Rub. & Trunks	32	29	25	479,419	380,972
Furniture & Crockery	10	19	9	234,490	217,205
H'ware, Stov. & Tools	24	19	18	363,255	157,527
Chemicals & Drugs.	15	7	11	135,503	26,607
Paints & Oils.....	..	1	..	.....	2,700
Jewelry & Clocks...	24	8	13	186,322	145,363
Books & Papers....	9	5	5	329,323	57,248
Hats, Furs & Gloves	12	6	9	62,693	360,891
All Other.....	82	75	88	1,470,327	1,053,657
Total Trading....	554	535	542	\$6,429,498	\$7,118,017
Agents and Brokers.	49	53	62	843,237	5,743,173
Total	757	746	789	\$12,922,676	\$17,086,296

The indebtedness was higher this quarter in five of the nine Provinces, especially in British Columbia. The large increase in this Province was due to a few failures of unusual size.

A decided reduction appears in the Province of Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and New Brunswick. A considerable reduction in liabilities also is noted for Newfoundland.

CANADIAN FAILURES BY PROVINCES, FIRST QUARTER—1932

PROVINCE	ALL COMMERCIAL, 1932				TOTAL 1931				CLASSIFIED FAILURES							
	No.	Assets	Liabilities	No.	No.	Liabilities	No.	Liabilities	MANUFACT'G		TRADING		OTHER COM'L		BANKING	
Ontario	205	\$2,038,746	\$4,810,361	193	..	\$7,412,375	58	\$3,261,561	140	\$1,506,767	7	\$42,033	..	.....	..	.....
Quebec	298	2,801,060	4,894,898	275	..	4,486,411	68	1,712,139	215	2,908,820	15	274,239	..	.....	..	.....
British Columbia.....	81	762,484	1,217,243	57	..	694,634	12	479,645	61	563,922	8	173,676	..	.....	..	.....
Nova Scotia.....	18	38,517	161,311	12	..	71,953	1	7,500	14	106,248	3	47,563	..	.....	..	.....
Manitoba	43	504,948	611,490	67	..	2,330,387	2	27,962	37	461,887	4	121,661	..	.....	..	.....
New Brunswick.....	13	82,203	107,327	21	..	258,342	1	9,000	19	98,327	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....
Prince Edward Island..	2	2,890	13,500	2	..	10,169	..	.....	1	1,500	1	12,000	..	.....	..	.....
Alberta	61	355,074	479,847	42	..	416,080	8	91,100	42	216,682	11	172,065	..	.....	..	.....
Saskatchewan	20	265,807	346,875	67	..	695,164	2	30,859	24	316,016	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....
Total	747	\$6,849,639	\$12,642,652	736	..	\$16,375,515	152	\$5,619,766	546	\$6,179,649	49	\$843,237	..	.....	..	.....
Newfoundland	10	\$1,913	\$280,024	10	..	710,781	2	\$30,175	8	\$249,849	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....

FALL TEXTILES DISPLAYED

by C. S. WOOLSLEY

In the retail dry goods field some improvement has taken place in the sales of seasonal merchandise, such as wash fabrics and Spring and Summer lines of underwear. Additional business also was done in several lines of ready-to-wear. In the primary markets, prices again have been declining, and curtailment of production is increasing very noticeably. Buyers still are reluctant to place forward orders for the new Fall season, and are confining their operations as nearly as possible to covering their immediate sales requirements.

The largest rayon producer, whose mills have been operating on a basis of about 65 per cent capacity for several weeks, gave notice of a purpose to **BUYING INCREASING IN RETAIL CENTERS** close the plants for the month of June, at least, due to a lack of profitable business. In the cotton goods division, further curtailment of production is reported from print cloth mills and among some of the sheeting and broadcloth mills. Fine goods production is stated to be averaging less than 40 per cent capacity.

In the silk field, there has been no gain in the volume of business offered and in the wool goods division several mills are still idle awaiting the resumption of Spring and Fall business, the former being largely inclined to flannels and tropical suitings in the men's wear division and filling-in lots of women's wear suitings.

In some quarters of the market, the slight increase in the activity of retail distribution has led to stronger hopes that June will prove to be a good month in cleaning up any available stocks of Summer lines in first hands.

Print cloth and sheeting quotations were slightly lower at the end of the week and finished goods prices were softer, particularly on some lines of printed goods and bleached cottons. Buying has been noticeably larger in the lower count cloths for printing and converting, and the converters are finding that any attempt made to force sales results in very unsatisfactory prices. Houses that are making a reasonable profit are stated to be very few in number and the buying of staple merchandise, such as sheets and pillowcases, bedspreads, towels, etc.,

Slight increase in activity of retail distribution leads to belief that June will be a good month for cleaning up stocks of Summer merchandise in first hands. Further curtailment of production in many divisions. Prices generally continue weak. Many novelties shown at Fall openings of dress goods.

still is largely a price proposition. Additional openings of women's wear lines for Fall were made during the week, and in several instances prices announced on some of the new goods show the best values that have prevailed in the trade for many years. Buyers are looking for the largest volume business to be done on dress goods ranging from 70c. to \$1.15 a yard. A few additional lines of very fine quality coatings and dress materials were opened and while mills are not looking for an early or large business before July they seem confident that buyers will favor better qualities later in the year.

In the men's wear divisions Fall business continues slow, although men's wear mill agents state that reports from clothing manufacturers are becoming a little more favorable. In the silk trade, less confidence prevails in the stability of the raw material which has touched a low point of all time in the past two weeks.

One of the leading manufacturers of carpets and rugs opened new lines for Fall during the week and made no changes in its established price list. The opening was not generally followed by others, although a number of smaller manufacturers have been bringing out new rugs from time to time and

FALL CARPET LINES SHOWN selling these in small lots as opportunity offered. Some other manufacturers intend to open their Fall lines in August. The leading factors in hard surfaced floor coverings, such as linoleums and felt based goods will open their lines formally in the next few weeks.

The course of prices in the cotton option market at New York and spot prices for each day this week at leading cotton centers are given in the following table:

	Thurs. May 19	Fri. May 20	Sat. May 21	Mon. May 23	Tues. May 24	Wed. May 25
May	5.68	5.73	5.70	5.78	5.78	5.78
July	5.78	5.78	5.75	5.82	5.86	5.87
October	5.97	6.02	5.99	6.06	5.91	5.91
December	6.11	6.16	6.12	6.19	6.04	6.04
January	6.19	6.23	6.19	6.27	6.12	6.12

	Wed. May 18	Thurs. May 19	Fri. May 20	Sat. May 21	Mon. May 23	Tues. May 24
New Orleans, cents....	5.74	5.78	5.85	5.85	5.89	5.75
New York, cents.....	5.75	5.85	5.90	5.85	5.95	5.75
Savannah, cents.....	5.69	5.74	5.73	5.75	5.82	5.67
Galveston, cents.....	5.65	5.65	5.70	5.70	5.75	5.66
Memphis, cents.....	5.10	5.15	5.20	5.15	5.20	5.05
Norfolk, cents.....	5.70	5.75	5.80	5.75	5.80	5.67
Augusta, cents.....	5.50	5.56	5.50	5.56	5.56	5.44
Houston, cents.....	5.60	5.65	5.56	5.65	5.70	5.55
Little Rock, cents....	5.04	5.09	5.35	5.10	5.17	5.01
St. Louis, cents.....	5.10	5.20	5.13	5.20	5.20	5.30
Dallas, cents.....	5.25	5.30	5.40	5.30	5.40	5.25

SECURITY PRICES GENERALLY LOWER

by GEORGE RAMBLES

Uncertainties of the business and political situations again proved a disturbing factor in the securities markets this week, and prices of almost all types of capital issues declined persistently. The recessions were not especially pronounced, when measured in points, but in view of the low figures now prevalent they were quite sizable when measured in percentages. A heavy proportion of equity issues listed on the New York Stock Exchange are now selling at less than \$10 a share and even small recessions gain significance for that reason.

The dull and gloomy outlook and the lack of any sharp improvement in leading industries forced the averages of stocks to a new low this week for the bear market. All indices reflected this trend. It means, of course, that many leading stocks moved decisively to record low levels. This was due, on the other hand, not to any general liquidating movement, but rather to sheer lack of buying interest. The low level of trading is sufficient proof of this, turnover even in the most active sessions hardly mounting to 1,000,000 shares.

Whether any change in this trend can be expected in the near future would seem to depend more on national and international politics than on trade and industry. It is apparent that business tends to lift its head here and there, especially in such key industries as motors. The huge General Motors Corporation reports more than a seasonal improvement in output during April. The steel trade is at least holding its own. Commodity prices in general appear to be at or close to their bottoms, and improvement in this direction would probably develop rather easily if conditions otherwise permitted.

Quotations of most senior securities dwindled with startling rapidity in the market sessions this week. For a time the prices held, owing to the belief that the new Young Committee, formed late last week to promote the use of the flood of credit made available by the Federal Reserve institutions, might direct its first endeavors to the bond market. As this impression faded, levels declined more de-

Light trading volume and sagging prices reflect the discouragement and uncertainty of security holders. Foreign conditions and the possibilities of inflation tend to offset slight domestic industrial improvement now visible. Governments are stronger on prospects of a balanced budget. Railroad bonds ease lower.

cisively than ever and record lows were registered in many sections of the market. United States government securities held rather better than in earlier weeks, as it is believed in influential circles that Congress will at least balance the national budget, even if it does little else that is con-

structive. Long-term Treasury issues were soft, however, as the possibility of heavy additional flotations of government securities is distinctly disturbing. Short-term Treasury securities were maintained largely as a result of the Federal Reserve open market operations.

Corporation bonds of the highest grade, with ratings that place them in the money market classification, were off slightly with governments. Others showed precipitous declines. Carrier bonds of the New York Central, Pennsylvania, Northern Pacific and Southern Pacific lines, for instance, virtually all fell to new lows. Second-grade railroad issues likewise lost much ground. All issues with a speculative tinge developed great weakness.

In the foreign dollar group of bonds, United Kingdom 5½s stood out as a point of strength, successive new highs for the issue appearing every day. Domestic and foreign buying alike is converging on this issue, as it is payable in gold dollars of the present standard of weight and fineness, and there is, moreover, no doubt anywhere of the ability and willingness of the British government to effect repayment. French, Belgian and Italian bonds were fairly firm and the Scandinavian issues lost only a little ground. With such exceptions, however, prices melted rapidly. The movement was accelerated by the rumors of an Austrian moratorium and troubles elsewhere.

Daily transactions in stocks and bonds on the New York Stock Exchange compare with last year as follows:

Week Ending	Stocks—Shares		Bonds	
	This Week	Last Year	This Week	Last Year
May 25, 1932				
Thursday	700,000	2,400,000	\$12,163,000	\$12,504,000
Friday	787,300	1,600,000	14,215,000	10,038,000
Saturday	300,100	550,200	5,618,000	5,461,000
Monday	600,000	1,900,000	11,721,000	7,929,000
Tuesday	1,000,000	2,400,000	10,486,000	9,369,000
Wednesday	1,300,000	2,500,000	12,371,000	11,508,000
Total	4,667,400	11,350,200	\$66,574,000	\$56,809,000

BUSINESS CONDITIONS — REPORTED BY

BALTIMORE Most of the large industries in this district have adopted economies and curtailed output to such an extent that overproduction no longer is a menacing factor. Moreover, wholesale distributors still are pursuing a conservative purchasing policy and most jobbers now are carrying subnormal inventories. There has been some rally in commodity prices, which is believed to be a prerequisite of business recovery.

Expansion of outdoor activities is a welcome development, particularly for the unemployed, and some industries are being benefited by the favorable weather conditions. Some improvement is noticeable in the automotive industry; car distributors report an increase in sales, and tires as well as general accessories are moving better.

BOSTON The shoe and leather and the textile industries continue slow, with manufacturing and trading concerns having difficulty in approaching last year's sales figures. Manufacturers of clothing are slightly more cheerful, as retailers are reducing their stocks. Machine-tool operators report an increase in orders, and the movement of paints is a little larger than it was a week ago. General conditions of employment are better in this section than in most parts of the country.

BUFFALO Retail sales of seasonable merchandise for the week, aided by warmer weather, have shown some improvement; while volume still is behind that on the corresponding date of one year ago, it is taking on a more encouraging aspect. Women's wear is moving fairly well, and the demand for men's clothing and furnishings shows some increase. Furniture and house-furnishings are moving in larger volume.

CHICAGO Wholesale and retail merchandising activities continued to expand during the week under the tonic effects of warm weather. Local wholesalers and wholesale buying agencies were the recipients of a goodly number of telephone calls early in the week, asking rush shipments of Summer apparel items. The demand for house-furnishings likewise was very active, while the number of buyers in the field increased. At retail, the number of shoppers in the stores gained steadily. Summer apparel, men's straw hats, housewares, garden items, and sporting goods sold well.

Early dealer attendance at the radio show was fair, and exhibitors had high hopes of a better volume of orders than last year. New car sales were about at the levels of last week, but the number of used cars on hand, as a result of trade-ins, has increased sharply. Building contracts for the first fourteen days of May improved seasonally over April for the local metropolitan area. A number of

the smaller manufacturing firms are making moderately good profits on a reduced turnover.

CINCINNATI General trade movements, during the month now ending, were not characterized by outstanding developments, but in certain major industries an upward trend is anticipated. House trade has been confined almost entirely to fill-in requirements, the bulk of current orders coming from road salesmen.

Encouraging reports are heard among leading manufacturers of women's shoes. Early Summer business from chain and department stores has picked up, indicating low stocks. The demand is principally for medium-priced and cheaper grades in pumps, oxfords and one-strap, in plain white kid, buckskin and linen.

CLEVELAND The slight uptrend which started last week in sales of warm weather commodities continued favorably during the present week. Activity is principally seasonal, however, and the general lines of staple merchandise marked no appreciable improvement. A few specialty lines, particularly jewelry, fancy articles and wearing apparel, have begun to feel the stimulus of the approaching commencement exercises in schools and colleges.

The shoe business experienced some improvement in novelty lines for women and children. Millinery and men's headgear have picked up slightly. Movement of automobile accessories took on some added strength. The food and provision markets continue active, with the supply liberal and prices softening.

DENVER April building permits showed an increase of \$42,300 over March, 1932, but were approximately one-third less than in April, 1931. Colorado shipments of fruits and vegetables during the month of April, 1932, totalled 587 cars, consisting principally of potatoes. Crop conditions are regarded as favorable. Both wholesale and retail trade continue sluggish, with the leading houses reporting declines of approximately 25 per cent in sales as compared to the totals of a year ago.

DETROIT Although various promotions have stirred up business here and there in the retail trade, and the automobile industry also is more active, the net result has not changed the low sales level much. The reported increase in Ford sales and production is a good trade stimulant. An improvement is seen in the manufacture of steel sheets.

In the wholesale merchandise markets, operations were perhaps a little more active than last month. Dry goods jobbers continue to operate cautiously. Merchandise prices show no signs of hard-

DISTRICT OFFICES OF R. G. DUN & CO.

ening. Buying for the coming holiday is helping trade throughout the State.

KANSAS CITY Wholesale volume in drugs and hardware was reported light during the week. Piece goods business continues slow in the dry goods division, although some houses state that trade since the first of the month has been good in hosiery, curtains and linens. Shoes and furnishings goods have been a little more active.

Women's wear distribution has been fairly active in the less expensive lines. Millinery trade has been a little better this month than it was last month.

LOUISVILLE Seasonal improvement has been quite marked during the last few weeks in the sales of men's and women's clothing, shoes, house-furnishings, light hardware and paints. There has been a gain in the movement of paper boxes, with indications of continued betterment in demand. Some branches of the oil business are in a far better position than they were a month ago.

MEMPHIS Little improvement is being reported in any line, although seasonal apparel is being moved at a fair rate. Restricted buying power, however, is in evidence and there continues as a rule preference for cheaper materials.

Agricultural outlook is fair, as a result of favorable weather, although moisture generally is needed in this territory to promote growth. Boll weevil are already being reported as plentiful in parts of the territory, particularly in the Mississippi delta.

NEWARK Sales at retail during the week just past were still below normal, although at one of the local department stores, where a special sale was conducted, with pronounced price reductions, the turnover was good. Men's straw hats are selling fairly well, with prices a little below those of a year ago. Hosiery and millinery are in fair demand.

The slow movement of used cars acts as a somewhat disturbing element on the sale of new automobiles. Dealers in paint and kindred lines report the volume of sales holding up fairly well.

OMAHA Rising temperatures have had their effect on business and volume for the current month has been generally reported as slightly better than for April. A number of small specialty manufacturers have had a noticeable pick-up in sales, though large manufacturers continue to work on shortened schedules. In the implement trade, sales are slow, and principal efforts are concentrated on collections. Most buying is being done on short terms.

PHILADELPHIA The seasonal trend of business in most branches has been moderately encouraging, but

distributive totals in other than seasonal lines are being increased but slowly. The warm weather of the past week brought shoppers to the leading stores in large numbers, but their purchases continue small, with the demand centered on merchandise in the lower-priced brackets. There has been a slow shift, however, to the better grades of merchandise.

PITTSBURGH Warmer weather has stimulated the demand, to a moderate extent, for ready-to-wear apparel, particularly of the cheaper grades of women's and girls' dresses. Sales of men's wear continue to drag, but there has been a slight increase in the movement of straw hats. Dry goods sales still are slow, although cotton fabrics have been moving at a somewhat better rate. While the furniture trade has been rather inactive, the movement of Summer furniture and house-furnishings shows a slight increase.

ROCHESTER The erection of a State hospital, federal post office and a large office building will take place here within the next four months. This will give employment to a large number of skilled and unskilled building mechanics. Warm weather has accelerated the acceptance of retail apparel. Crop conditions are good.

ST. LOUIS Seasonable merchandise is moving in fair quantities and activity in this district is showing a slight improvement. Retail sales are reported as fair for the week, with Summer merchandise and tourist supplies among the leaders. Manufacturers of paper boxes and containers report sales off about 10 per cent generally, as compared with those of a year ago, but orders now are more frequent, and prices are more stable. Manufacturers and jobbers of textiles report sales of Summer articles in a fair volume.

Hardware and building material supply houses are receiving a satisfactory amount of orders, although the volume of sales is slightly under that for the same period a year ago. Metals continue slow, with small orders dominating. Drugs and heavy chemicals are in fair demand. Foodstuffs and provisions show a slackening in demand, with prices ranging somewhat under last year's.

TOLEDO Building trade lines show a restricted production of raw material, with low stocks on hand, but sufficient for the very slight upward turn in building activities. General industrial employment has gained somewhat in single plant units, while other plants have shown some recession. Metal stamping concerns manifest a fair measure of operation, and canvas glove makers report the receipt of further orders for future delivery.

WEEKLY QUOTATION RECORD OF

With the fewest number of declines in nine weeks, and advances rising 33.3 per cent above the level reached during the week preceding, there is

a more encouraging aspect to Dun's current compilation of wholesale commodity prices. In addition, for the first time in more than a month, ad-

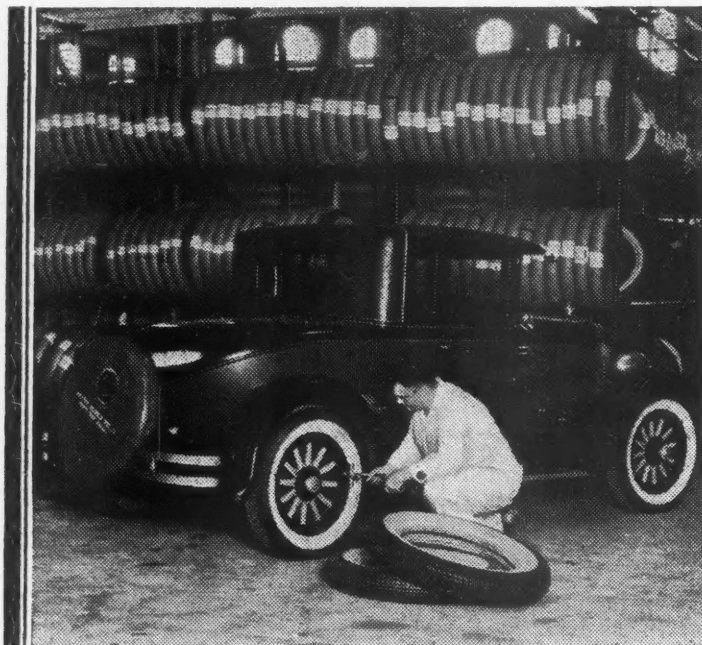
	Net Change	This Week	Last Week	Last Year		Net Change	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
FOODSTUFFS									
BEANS: Pea, choice.....100 lbs + 5		2.65	2.60	5.00	FAS Plain Wh. Oak, 4/4".....per M ft.		110.00	110.00	115.00
Red kidney, choice..... " " + 5		2.45	2.40	8.00	FAS Plain Red Gum, 4/4"....." " "		76.00	76.00	85.00
White kidney, choice..... " " + 5		4.50	4.60	6.25	FAS Ash 4/4"....." " "		71.00	71.00	82.00
COFFEE: No. 7 Rio.....lb		8 1/4	8 1/4	6 1/4	FAS Poplar, 4/4", 7 to 17"....." " "		80.00	80.00	105.00
" Santos No. 4..... " + 1/4		10 1/2	10 1/4	9 1/4	Beech, No. 1 Common, 4/4"....." " "		45.00	45.00	50.00
DAIRY:					FAS Birch, Red 4/4"....." " "		80.00	80.00	105.00
Butter, creamy, extra.....lb - 1/2		18	18 1/2	23	FAS Cypress, 1"....." " "		70.00	70.00	82.50
Cheese, N. Y., fancy..... " + 1/2		18	17 1/2	22	FAS Chestnut, 4/4"....." " "		65.00	65.00	75.00
Eggs, nearby, fancy..... dos		20 1/4	20 1/2	22	No. 1 Com. Mahogany, 4/4"....." " "		140.00	140.00	154.00
Fresh, gathered, extra firsts		17 1/2	17 1/2	20	FAS H. Maple, 4/4"....." " "		65.00	65.00	85.00
Milk.....100 lbs		2.82	2.82	4.00	Canada Spruce, 2x4"....." " "		24.00	24.00	32.00
DRIED FRUITS:					N. C. Pine, 4/4", Edge Under 12" No. 2 and Better....." " "		36.00	36.00	44.50
Apples, evaporated, fancy.....lb		8	8	11 1/4	Yellow Pine, 3x12"....." " "		41.00	41.00	58.00
Apricots, choice....." " "		8 1/4	8 1/4	14	FAS Basswood, 4/4"....." " "		63.00	63.00	76.00
Citron, imported....." " "		17 1/4	17 1/4	16 1/4	Douglas Fir, Water Ship, c. l. f., N. Y., 2x4", 18 feet....." " "		19.50	19.50	23.75
Currents, cleaned, 50-lb. box....." " "		11 1/4	11 1/4	11 1/4	Cal. Redwood, 4/4", Clear....." " "		54.00	54.00	71.00
Lemon Peel, Imported....." " "		16 1/4	16 1/4	15	North Carolina Pine Roofers, 18/16x8"....." " "		21.50	21.50	24.50
Orange Peel, Imported....." " "		17	17	16	NAVAL STORES: Pitch.....bbl		4.00	4.00	6.50
Peaches, Cal. standard....." " "		7	7	8 1/4	Rosin ("B")..... " - 10		3.10	3.00	4.80
Prunes, Cal. 40-50, 25-lb. box....." " "		4 1/2	4 1/2	6 1/4	Tar, kiln burned....." " "		10.00	10.00	10.00
Raisins, Malaga, 4 cr....." " "		5	5	5	Turpentine, carlots.....gal + 1 1/4		45 1/4	44 1/4	54
FLOUR: Spring Pat.....196 lbs + 5		4.30	4.25	4.60	PAINTS: Litharge, com'l Am. lb		12	12	13 1/4
Winter, Soft Straights..... " + 10		3.35	3.25	4.00	Red Lead, dry.....100		6 1/4	6 1/4	13 1/4
Fancy Minn. Family..... " + 20		5.65	5.45	6.00	White Lead in Paste.....lb		12	12	13 1/4
GRAIN: Wheat, No. 2 B.....bu + 5 1/4		75 1/4	70	93 1/4	" " dry....." "		6 1/4	6 1/4	13 1/4
Corn, No. 2 yellow..... " + 1 1/4		47	45 1/4	69 1/4	Zinc, American....." "		6 1/4	6 1/4	8 1/4
Oats, No. 3 white..... " + 1/4		33 1/4	33 1/4	38 1/2	" F. P. R. S....." "		9 1/4	9 1/4	9 1/4
Rye, No. 2, F.O.B..... " - 1/4		52 1/4	53	46	ADVANCES 1; DECLINES 1.				
Barley, malting..... " + 1 1/2		50 1/4	49 1/4	57 1/2	HIDES AND LEATHER				
Hay, No. 1.....100 lbs		90	90	1.35	HIDES, Chicago:				
HOPS: Pacific, Pr. "31.....lb		19	19	22	Packer, No. 1 native.....lb		4 1/4	4 1/4	8 1/4
MOLASSES AND SYRUP:					No. 1 Texas..... " + 1/2		4 1/4	3 1/4	7 1/4
Blackstrap—bbis.....gal		9 1/4	9 1/4	10	Colorado....." " "		3 1/4	3 1/4	7 1/4
Extra Fancy....." "		54	54	54	Cows, heavy native....." "		4	4	7 1/4
FEAS: Yellow split, dom. 100 lbs		5.35	5.35	3.85	Branded cows....." " "		3 1/4	2 1/4	6
PROVISIONS, Chicago:					No. 1 butt hides....." - 1/4		3 1/4	3 1/4	8
Best Steers, best fat.....100 lbs - 25		7.35	7.60	8.50	No. 1 extrema....." "		4	4	7 1/4
Hogs, 220-250 lb. w'ts..... " - 10		3.40	3.50	6.20	No. 1 kip....." "		3 1/4	3 1/4	8
Lard, N. Y., Mid. W..... " + 30		4.35	4.05	7.85	No. 1 calfskins....." "		3 1/4	3 1/4	9 1/4
Pork, mess.....bbl - 50		16.25	16.75	22.00	Chicago city calfskins....." "		4 1/2	4 1/2	13
Lamb, best fat, natives, 100 lbs - 50		6.50	7.00	8.50	LEATHER:				
Sheep, fat ewes..... " - 25		3.00	3.25	3.60	Union backs, t.r.....lb		28	28	30
Beacon, N. Y., 140 down..... " + 5		4.00	3.95	8.50	Scoured oak-backs, No. 1....." "		30	30	35
Hama, N. Y., 19-20 lb..... " - 1/4		6 1/4	7	11 1/4	No. 2 butt bands....." "		40	40	52
Tallow, N. Y., sp. loose....." " "		2 1/4	2 1/4	3 1/4	ADVANCES 1; DECLINES 1.				
RICE: Dom. Long grain, Fancy lb		4 1/4	4 1/4	6	TEXTILES				
Blue Rose, choice....." " "		3	3	3 1/2	BURLAP, 10 1/2-oz. 40-in.....yd		4 1/4	4 1/4	5 1/4
Foreign, Japan, fancy....."		2 1/4	2 1/4	3 1/8	8-oz. 40-in....." + 1/2		3 1/4	3 1/4	4 1/2
SPICES: Mace, Banda No. 1.....lb		39	39	52	COTTON GOODS:				
Cloves, Zanzibar....." "		12 1/4	12 1/4	23	Brown sheetings, stand.....yd		5 1/4	5 1/4	8
Nutmegs, 105s-110s....." "		13	13	16	Wide sheetings, 10-4....." - 1/2		42	42	46
Ginger, Cochina....." "		5 1/4	5 1/4	8 1/2	Bleached sheetings, stand....." - 1/2		11 1/4	12	14
Pepper, Lampong, black....." "		10	10	12	Medium....." - 1/2		7 1/4	7 1/4	10 1/4
" Singapore, white....." "		11 1/4	11 1/4	19	Brown sheetings, 4 yd....." "		4	4 1/4	6
" Mombasa, red....." "		15	15	20	Standard print....." "		5 1/4	5 1/4	8
SUGAR: Cent, 96".....100 lbs		2.58	2.58	3.12	Brown drls, standard....." "		6	6	8 1/4
Fine gran., in bbls....." "		3.75	3.75	4.35	Staple ginghams....." "		6	6	8
TEA: Formosa, standard.....lb		11	11	13	Print cloths, 38 1/2-in. 64x80....." - 1/4		3	3 1/4	4 1/4
Fine....." "		18	18	22	Hose, belting, duck....." "		18 1/2	18 1/2	22 1/4
Japan, basket fired....." "		10	10	12	HEMP: Midway, Fair Current.....lb		3 1/2	3 1/2	5 1/4
Congou, standard....." - 1		8	9	12	JUTE: flat marks....." "		2 1/2	2 1/2	3 1/2
VEGETABLES: Cabbage (nearby) bskt.		2.30	2.50	1.13	RAYON:				
Onions (Jersey), Yel.....bskt - 30		3.40	3.70	65	Den. Fil.				
Potatoes, L. I.....180-lb. sack		2.20	2.20	3.75	a 150 22-32....." "		75	75	75
Turnips, Can., Rutabaga.....bag		1.00	1.00	1.25	b 150 40....." "		1.00	1.00	1.30
ADVANCES 13; DECLINES 11.					a Viscose Process. b Cellulose Acetate.				
BUILDING MATERIALS					SILK: Italian Wr. Clas. (Yel.) lb		1.75	1.75	2.30
Brick, N. Y., delivered.....1000		10.00	10.00	15.00	Japan, Extra Crack....." - 4		1.27	1.31	2.30
Portland Cement, N. Y., Trk. loads, delivered.....bbl		1.66	1.66	1.69	WOOL, Boston:				
Chicago, carloads....." "		1.85	1.85	1.95	Average, 25 quot.....lb - 1.84		26.80	28.64	39.44
Philadelphia, carloads....." "		2.55	2.85	2.50	Ohio & Pa. Weaver:				
Lath, Eastern spruce.....1000		4.25	4.25	8.65	Delaine Unwashed....." "		16	16	25
Lime, hyd., masons, N. Y., ton		12.00	12.00	14.00	Half-Blood Combing....." "		16	16	24
Shingles, Cyp., Pr. No. 1.....1000		8.25	8.25	10.00	Half-Blood Clothing....." "		14	15	20
Red Cedar, Clear, Rail....." "		3.00	3.00	3.51	Common and Braid....." "		12	13	16
LUMBER:									
White Pine, No. 1 Barr. 1x4".....per M ft.		52.00	52.00	55.50					
F A S Quartered Wh. Oak 4/4"....." " "		139.00	139.00	154.00					

WHOLESALE COMMODITY PRICES

vances were in excess of declines in the foodstuffs group. The bullish wheat market carried prices of flour along with it, and further strength was given

this division by mark-ups on some of the dairy products and coffee. Provisions generally were irregular to lower.

	Net Change	This Week	Last Week	Last Year		Net Change	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Mich., and N. Y. Fleeces:					Soda ash, 58% light.....100 lbs	1.05	1.05	1.00	
Delaine Unwashed.....lb	14	15	23		Soda benzoate.....lb	40	40	40	
Half-Blood Combing....."	14	15	23		ADVANCES 0; DECLINES 1.				
Half-Blood Clothing....."	13	15	19		METALS				
Wis., Mo., and N. H.:					Pig Iron: No. 2x, Ph.....ton	14.84	14.84	17.26	
Half-Blood....."	12	12	20		No. 2 valley furnace....."	-50	14.50	15.00	17.00
Quarter-Blood....."	12	13	20		Basic, valley furnace....."	-50	14.50	14.50	16.25
Southern Fleeces:					Bessemer, Pittsburgh....."	-50	16.89	17.39	18.76
Ordinary Mediums....."	12	13	18		Gray Forge, Pittsburgh....."	-50	16.89	16.89	18.89
Ky., W. Va., etc.; Three-eighths					No. 2 South Cincinnati....."	-50	18.82	18.82	14.69
Blood Unwashed....."	16	18	24		Billets, reolling, Pittsburgh....."	-50	27.00	27.00	29.00
Quarter-Blood Combing....."	15	17	23		Forging, Pittsburgh....."	-50	33.00	33.00	35.00
Texas, Scoured Basis:					Wire rods, Pittsburgh....."	-50	37.00	37.00	35.00
Fine, 12 months....."	37	42	58		O-h rails, by., at mill....."	-50	43.00	43.00	43.00
Fine, 8 months....."	33	36	55		Iron bars, Chicago.....100 lbs	-50	1.70	1.70	1.70
California, Scoured Basis:					Steel bars, Pittsburgh....."	-50	1.60	1.60	1.65
Northern....."	36	38	51		Tank plates, Pittsburgh....."	-50	1.60	1.60	1.65
Southern....."	35	38	50		Shapes, Pittsburgh....."	-50	1.60	1.60	1.65
Oregon, Scoured Basis:					Sheets, black No. 24, Pitts-	-50	2.20	2.20	2.15
Fine & F. M. Staple....."	37	40	60		burgh....."	-50	1.95	1.95	1.80
Valley No. 1....."	36	39	52		Wire nails, Pittsburgh....."	-50	2.60	2.60	2.55
Territory, Scoured Basis:					Barb Wire, galvanized....."	-50	2.60	2.60	2.55
Fine Staple Choice....."	41	43	63		Pittsburgh....."	-50	2.85	2.85	2.80
Half-Blood Combing....."	38	42	57		Coke, Connellsville, oven.....ton	-50	2.25	2.25	2.40
Fine Clothing....."	33	35	52		Furnace, prompt ship....."	-50	3.00	3.00	3.50
Pulled: Delaine....."	48	50	73		Foundry, prompt ship....."	-50	2.25	2.25	2.40
Fine Combing....."	47	48	55		Aluminum, pig (ton lots).....lb	-50	22 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2
Coarse Combing....."	35	35	40		Antimony, ordinary....."	-50	5	5	6
California AA....."	48	52	65		Copper, Electrolytic....."	-50	5 1/2	5 1/2	8 1/2
WOOLEN GOODS:					Zinc, N. Y....."	-50	2 1/2	2 1/2	3 1/2
Standard Cheviot, 14-oz.....yd	1.07 1/2	1.07 1/2	1.30		Lead, N. Y....."	-50	3	3	3 1/2
Serge, 11-oz....."	1.20	1.20	1.65		Tin, N. Y....."	-50	20 1/2	20 1/2	22 1/2
Serge, 15-oz....."	1.47 1/2	1.47 1/2	1.85		Tinplate, Pittsburgh, 100-lb box	-50	4.75	4.75	5.00
Serge, 16-oz....."	1.80	1.80	2.28		ADVANCES 2; DECLINES 4.				
Fancy cassimere, 13-oz....."	1.87	1.87	1.82 1/2		MISCELLANEOUS				
Broadcloth, 54-in....."	2.50	2.50	2.80		COAL: f.o.b. Mines.....ton				
ADVANCES 1; DECLINES 5.					Bituminous:				
DRUGS AND CHEMICALS					Navy Standard....."	1.75	1.75	2.15	
Acetanilid, U.S.P. bbls.....lb	36	36	36		High Volatile, Steam....."	1.25	1.25	1.25	
Acid Acetic, 28 deg.....100 lbs	2.60	2.60	2.60		Anthracite, Company:				
Carbolic, cans....."	17	17	17		Stove....."	6.65	6.65	6.45	
Citric, domestic.....lb	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2		Egg....."	6.40	6.40	6.25	
Muriatic, 18".....100 lbs	1.00	1.00	1.00		Nut....."	6.40	6.40	6.45	
Nitric, 52"....."	6.50	6.50	6.50		Pea....."	4.85	4.85	4.45	
Oxalic, spot.....lb	10 1/4	10 1/4	10 1/4		DYESTUFFS—Bi-chromate				
Sulphuric, 60".....100 lbs	55	55	55		Posash, am.....lb	8	8	7 1/2	
Tartaric crystals.....lb- 1/2	23 1/2	24	31 1/2		Cochineal, silver....."	46	46	52	
Fluor Spar, acid, 98%.....ton	38.50	38.50	38.50		Cutch, Rangoon....."	9 1/2	9 1/2	10 1/2	
Alcohol, 190 proof U.S.P.....gal	2.37	2.37	2.37		Gambier, Plantation....."	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2	
" wood 95%....."	44	44	44		Indigo, Madras....."	1.25	1.25	1.25	
" denatured, form S....."	31 1/2	31 1/2	22		Prussiate potash, yellow....."	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2	
Alum, lump.....lb	2.25	2.25	3.25		FERTILIZERS:				
Ammonia, anhydrous....."	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2		Bones, ground steamed, 1 1/4,				
Arsenic, white....."	4	4	4		am., 60% bone phosphate,				
Balsam, Copaiba, S. A....."	18	18	20		Chicago.....ton	25.00	25.00	25.00	
Fir, Canada.....gal	10.00	10.00	10.00		Muriate Potash, 80%....."	37.15	37.15	37.15	
Peru....."	90	95	1.50		Nitrate soda.....100 lbs	1.77	1.77	2.05	
Bicarbonate Soda, Am.....100 lbs	2.54	2.54	2.64		Sulphate ammonia, do-				
Bleaching powder, over					mestic, delivered....."	1.20	1.20	1.65	
34%....."	2.00	2.00	2.00		Sulphate potash, ba. 90%.....ton-75	47.50	48.25	48.25	
Borax, crystal, in bbl.....lb	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2		OILS: Coconut, Spot, N.Y.....lb				
Brimstone, crude domestic.....ton	18.00	18.00	18.00		China Wood, bbls. spot....."	3 1/4	3 1/4	4 1/4	
Calomel, American.....lb	1.43	1.43	1.82		Cod, Newfoundland.....gal	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	
Camphor, slabs....."	43	43	53		Corn, crude, Mill.....lb	2 1/2	2 1/2	5 1/2	
Castile Soap, white.....case	15.00	15.00	15.00		Cottonseed, spot....."	3	3	6 1/2	
Castor Oil No. 1.....lb	9	9	10 1/2		Lard, Extra, Winter st....."	6 1/4	6 1/4	8 1/2	
Caustic Soda, 76%.....100 lbs	2.25	2.25	2.25		Linseed, city raw, carlots....."	6 1/4	6 1/4	8 1/2	
Chlorate potash.....lb	25	25	25		Neatsfoot, pure....."	7 1/2	7 1/2	10 1/4	
Chloroform, U.S.P....."	8.50	8.50	8.50		Rosin, first run.....gal	43	43	52	
Cocaine, Hydrochloride.....oz	18 1/2	18 1/2	23 1/2		Soya-Bean, tank, cars, M. W.....lb	2 1/2	2 1/2	6 1/2	
Cream Tartar, domestic.....lb	2.25	2.25	2.25		Petroleum, Pa., cr., at well..bbl	1.79 1/2	1.79 1/2	1.25	
Epsom Salts.....100 lbs	6	6	6		Kerosene, wagon, delivery...gal	17	17	17	
Formaldehyde.....lb	10 1/4	10 1/4	12 1/4		Gas'e auto in gar., st. bbls....."	10 1/2	14 1/2	13 1/2	
Glycerine, C. P. in drums....."	5 1/2	5 1/2	9 1/4		Wax, ref. 125 m. p.....lb	3	3	3 1/2	
Gum-Arabic, Amber....."	21	21	29		PAPER: Newsroll Contract.....				
Benzoin, Sumatra....."	75	75	75		Book, S. & S. C.....lb	53.00	53.00	57.00	
Shellac, D. C....."	33	33	38		Writing, tub-sized....."	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	
Tragacanth, Aleppo 1st....."	87	93	135		No. 1 Kraft....."	4 1/2	4 1/2	10	
Licorice, Extract....."	18	18	18		No. 1 Kraft, Domestic, bl.....100 lbs	2.00	2.00	2.40	
Powdered....."	33	33	33		Old Paper No. 1 Mix....."	20	20	15	
Menthol, Japan, cases....."	2.70	2.75	3.75		PLATINUM.....oz				
Morphine, Sulp., bulk.....oz	7.95	7.95	7.95		37.50	37.50	30.00		
Nitrate Silver, crystals....."	22 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2		RUBBER: Up-River, fine.....lb				
Nux Vomica, powdered.....lb	7 1/2	7 1/2	8		Plan, 1st Latex, crude....."	5 1/2	5 1/2	8 1/2	
Opium, jobbing lots....."	12.00	12.00	12.00		4	4	6 1/2		
Quicksilver, 75-lb. flask....."	66.00	67.50	103.00		ADVANCES 0; DECLINES 2.				
Quinine, 100-oz. tins....."	40	40	40		TOTAL ADVANCES.....				
Rochelle Salts.....lb	15	15	19		18	12	11		
Sal ammoniac, lump, imp....."	10 1/4	10 1/4	10 1/4		TOTAL DECLINES.....				
Sal soda, American.....100 lbs	90	90	90		31	34	31		
Saltpetre, crystals....."	7 1/4	7 1/4	7 1/4						
Sarsaparilla, Honduras.....lb	42	42	45						



Courtesy "Tires"

RUBBER INDUSTRY UNDERGOING READJUST- MENT

by RAYMOND BRENNAN

The romance of rubber has contributed one of the most interesting stories in the drama of industry in the current century. It has been surrounded with all the glamour that marked the rush for gold, oil and diamonds. It held all the lure to adventure and source of untold wealth that made treasure hunters willing to brave the torrid rigors of the tropics to rob the wilderness of its stores. Throughout the vast belt drawn around the earth, extending to three or four degrees on either side of the equator, men of many nations sought the milky fluid, pushing on into the depths of the jungles to find it.

On no other indispensable product did modern industry place so high a price. No other essential was so badly needed by industry. Without it, the story of the meteoric rise of the automobile trade never would have been written; neither could the electrical trade have perfected its myriad products. Besides, it gave new life to the shoe trade through the introduction of rubber heels and soles; it helped the clothing industry by making rubber-proofed fabrics possible, and gave surgical and hospital work the greatest impetus of the century by perfection of equipment which was impossible of attainment with any other material.

Tapping on Dutch East Indies plantations curtailed sharply following abandonment of plan to control output. With visible rubber stocks equal nearly to full year's supply, prices have been forced to lowest level in history. Recession in rubber goods production heaviest in tires and industrial items.

tire idea was given up, as it seems that the small native producer has become permanent and a vital factor in the rubber industry. Nearly half of the world's planted acreage is now in his hands. Moreover, for every 100 acres of mature trees the small men have 77 acres coming into bearing; the big plantations, on the other hand, may have only 38 immature acres to every 100 in full production.

Although many estates have ceased tapping or have restricted it greatly, the total shipments of rubber last year showed comparatively a small decline over those of the year previous and were above world consumption. Stocks on hand at the close of 1931 totalled 645,000 tons, which represent a year's supply, unless consumption takes a sharp upward turn. It is estimated that about 83.3 per cent of the world's consumption of rubber goes into automobile tires. It is in this direction that the falling off in demand is most noticeable. Since the United States dominates the automobile situation of the

Last Fall the Dutch and British governments began a series of conference in conjunction with the government of the East Indies to discover a way in which native rubber production could be brought under control. After studying various curtailment plans for nearly six months, the en-

world, only a really marked revival in that industry can revive demand upon the rubber plantations.

While consumption of crude rubber by manufacturers in the United States gained somewhat in both January and February, there was a decline in March and April. The January consumption of 27,962 long tons was a gain of 30.6 per cent over the December total. In February, consumption rose to 30,012 tons, but in March declined to 27,828 tons, which was 15.1 per cent below the total for March,

CONSUMPTION DECLINE CONTINUES UNCHECKED

1931. The 25,953 long tons of crude rubber consumed in April declined by 6.7 per cent from the consumption figures for March, and went to a level 22 per cent under that of April, 1931, thus continuing the steady decrease which has been noted in world consumption during the last three years.

Of the total world consumption of 668,660 tons of crude rubber in 1931, approximately 52.4 per cent, or 350,000 tons were consumed by manufacturers in the United States. Of this total, 70 per cent went into automobile tires and tire sundries; 14 per cent into boots and shoes; 10 per cent into mechanical goods, and the remaining 6 per cent into widely differing products.

Totals of passenger car and truck production in 1930 showed a 37.5 per cent decline over the 1929 figures. Tire production declined but 22.5 per cent. For 1931, passenger car and truck production figures dropped approximately another 20 per cent, but the decline in tire production was but 9 per cent. The tire industry, after two successive years of curtailed sales, still is running at better than 70 per cent of 1929 totals; there are few manufacturing businesses in the country which can display such an imposing record.

During the first four months of the current year, however, shipments of tires each month have lagged behind those for the comparative months of 1931. The total for the four months barely reached 11,964,037 units, as compared with 16,199,470 during the

same period last year, a decline of 4,235,433 units, or 25.5 per cent.

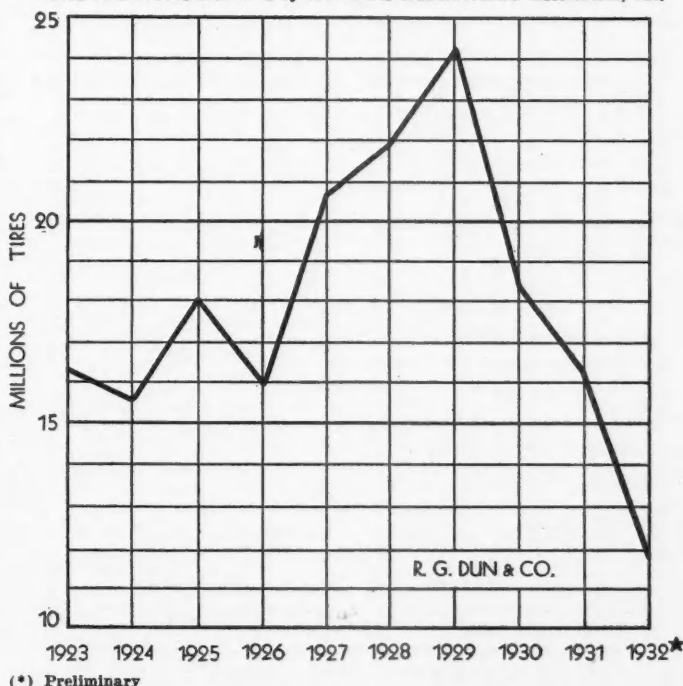
In 1924, with passenger cars and trucks in service totalling 14,149,000, and tire replacement sales amounting to 32,258,000, tire sales per car were 2.2. In 1928, with 20,700,000 passenger cars and trucks in service and 49,909,000 tires sold, the replacement of tires per car was 2.4. In 1931, when 23,500,000 cars were in service and 41,000,000 tires were sold, the replacement per car was only 1.75. Today, the motorist buys 1,000 miles of tire for about 60c., whereas in 1914 he paid \$5.67 for each 1,000 miles.

Tire manufacturers are proceeding with caution and have not advanced their production schedules appreciably, as the decline in factory shipments still is unchecked. Inventories as of May 1 still are slightly below those of the same date in 1931, due to strenuous liquidation of inventories in the closing months of last year. With the recent substantial increase in manufacturers' stocks, however, producers are more or less feeling their way, with operations in most instances below 50 per cent of capacity. In the last few years, rubber has been adopted for such large use in different forms in automobiles that any increase in automobile manufacture would increase substantially mechanical and molded goods operations, as well as tire production. As a whole, this branch of the industry is fairly cheerful, in view of the fact that there has been a 20 per cent deficit in tire mileage each year for the past two years. In other words, there is a potential consumer demand of 40 per cent above normal for this year. Also, figures for April 1 show that each dealer had an average stock of 66.2 casings, against 78.4 casings on April 1, 1931. This is the lowest dealers' inventory in six years. This shrinkage amounts to better than 14 per cent over that of last year, and if the many dealers that have gone out of business were taken into consideration, the figure prob-

TIRE MANUFACTURERS RESTRICTING OUTPUT

UNIT SHIPMENTS OF AUTOMOBILE TIRES
(First Four Months of Each Year)

Based on statistics furnished by the Rubber Manufacturers' Association, Inc.



(*) Preliminary

The continued recession in the production of automobile tires contributes one of the chief retardative influences to the progress of the rubber goods industry. Estimated roughly at 12,000,000 units, shipments of tires during the first four months of the current year reached the lowest level of any comparative record in the last decade.

ably would be considerably lower, taking dealers' inventories as a whole.

As a result of the mild Winter, the inventory of boots and shoes was high at the beginning of the year, but as manufacturing operations have been reduced, stocks held by retailers on March 1 were appreciably lower, 291 pairs per dealer contrasting with 299.5 pairs per dealer on March 1, 1931. The current trend of buying only for immediate needs is revealed in the smaller percentage of dealers' reported stocks in each footwear classification.

The branch of the industry including druggists' sundries has shown a unit volume decrease from last year, ranging from 10 to 20 per cent. Seasonable merchandise, however, is in fair demand. Since the first of the month, there has been a small gain in the sales of such lines as rubberized aprons, garden hose and rubber gloves.

With crude rubber selling at about half what it brought a year ago, which is the lowest in the history of the industry, prices of rubber products have declined all the way from 10 to 50 per cent, depending upon the item and the strength of the demand for it. Rubber is like sugar in that the present price of about 3c. at New York, after deduction of shipping and marketing charges, returns almost nothing to apply to the grower's cost.

Collections are averaging from prompt to thirty days slow, except in the case of the many smaller retailers where a tendency toward increasing tardiness is shown. In some sections, payments have improved a bit through the reopening of several banks within the past few months, generally better weather, and improved prospects in agricultural districts. Bad debt losses run as high as 10, 15 and even 25 per cent of credit retail tire sales. The latter figure usually applies to the smaller concerns that are unskilled in credit granting. On the other hand, tire retailers granting credit expertly, with continued use of the credit bureaus and business-like attention to collections, show a credit loss of 1 per cent or less.

The survey made by R. G. Dun & Co. of bad debt losses among manufacturers of tires and tubes and mechanical rubber goods during the first six months of 1931 showed the average for the industry to be .604 per cent. The average reached a high of .869 per cent among the 27 retailers to whom manufacturers sold merchandise valued at \$11,165,000 during the six months' period. A low of .104 per cent was set down for the sales totalling \$8,825,000 to 13 manufacturers.

Grouped according to the territory sold, the heaviest loss—1.276 per cent—was recorded for the geographical division which included Washington, Oregon, California and Nevada. The lightest loss—.389 per cent—occurred in the group which included the States of New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.

The mortality rate among manufacturers of

rubber (exclusive of tires) was higher in 1931 than at any time in the last five years. The number of insolvencies was twice as large as in 1930, while the value of the liabilities showed a gain of \$1,884,970. Among the retailers, the number of failures also increased, with the total value of liabilities gaining by \$161,900. The complete insolvency record for the past five years of the rubber goods industry (exclusive of tires), as compiled by R. G. Dun & Co., shows:

Manufacturers		
Year	Number	Liabilities
1927.....	4	\$1,576,900
1928.....	6	238,200
1929.....	4	268,000
1930.....	4	67,200
1931.....	8	1,952,170

Wholesalers and Retailers		
Year	Number	Liabilities
1927.....	11	\$133,400
1928.....	9	95,000
1929.....	2	4,600
1930.....	4	50,000
1931.....	7	212,100

Although there seems to be little relief in sight from the conditions which are exerting so much pressure on prices, in most branches of the industry a more cheerful attitude is being taken regarding the course of demand during the next few months. In the tire division, plans have been formulated for the appointment of a virtual dictator through whom it may be possible to standardize output, regulate sales and stabilize prices. This is considered to be one of the most constructive movements undertaken in years, and has given fresh courage to nearly every branch of the industry.

NOTICE

Dun's Review each week carries a current, detailed survey of an important industry. A total of twenty different lines are reported in this way, each being covered at least twice in the course of the year.

The next review of the Rubber Industry will be published in the October 15th issue of *Dun's Review*.

Next week—June 4—the subject of the special survey will be Paper Boxes.

These industries will be surveyed in this sequence:

Clothing	Dry Goods
Agricultural Implements	Paper
Jewelry	Automobiles
Electrical Supplies	Drugs
Iron and Steel	Plumbing
Groceries	Building
Radio	Furs
Hardware	Dairy
Paint and Wallpaper	Furniture

LEATHER BUYING HEAVIER

by FRANK O. PRATT

There are instances of revived interest in the leather trade. There also are reports of larger individual sales, principally in Boston. A drawback concerning the individually increased trades, is the general opinion that prices severely suffered to get the bigger movements executed.

Nevertheless, buying interest has broadened over the recent period of pronounced slackness.

The trading in larger individual amounts has centered mostly on upper. Buyers evidently have figured that at the low prices accepted it was advisable to lay in some supplies of staple black calf and kid. Calf leather has moved in a larger way, but generally at a sharp sacrifice to price. Patent leather is slow, except for stitchdown work, with stitchdown patent mostly ranging 13c. to 14c., and some inferior stock even less. Kid, along with calf and side upper, has moved East in greater volume

UPPER LEATHER MOVING BETTER

for individual lots. There have been reports that dealers were the chief operators, buying in anticipation of possible shortage if kid tanners carry out reported plans for drastic tanning curtailment.

Like upper, there are reports of larger individual buying of sole, although some reports note continued slowness. There is generally more buying interest developing. The market also is weaker. There was a Boston report of a large tanner moving a quantity of between 25,000 and 50,000 factory bends for sole cutting at private terms, believed around 27c. to 28c. Bends in many instances seem very close to prices quoted for backs. Union trim backs are nominal now at 26c. to 28c., with the outside figure top for standard tannages. Finders' bends in New York are weakening. Many prices are heard, but the average is lower. Finders' sales, taps and strips likewise are dropping in price. Men's taps and soles are said to be anywhere from 10c. to 70c. per dozen lower, all according to tannage and measurement. Offal is slow and remains weak, but there have been more general inquiries of late.

Shoe factory operations have decreased for some time, but there are reports of increased output in some cases and that May is apt to show up a shade better from a production standpoint than April,

Hide and leather markets somewhat more active, with individual buying predominating both in the sole and upper divisions. Shoe factory operations curtailed during between-season lull. Sales of packer domestic hides well maintained; little interest in frigorificos and calfskins. Prices continue weak.

which showed a considerable falling off from March. It is now the in-between season months for footwear production. Factory activity is likely to be slow until the start of Fall-making, which is a month or two away. Price pressure remains insistent, but some think that the demand for

cheaper grade shoes may eventually wear itself out. There is no questioning that this has been dictated by economic conditions and lack of buying power. However, prices were previously forced down to what were considered bottom limits and it may be impossible to take anything more from value.

Tanners continued purchasing big packer domestic hides at unchanged prices and there was a volume movement last week of about 125,000. The fact that the sales ran April into May salting at former rates, indicates some price weakness for quality. The interest and demand emanated from ten to twelve different buyers, which was considered a good indication. Tanners seem to have ignored a former policy of purchasing hides cured and ready for shipment, probably because they have been able to buy into May salting at no increase for better quality. Native bulls appear proportionately strong, selling at 23¼c. for January to May, inclusive, kill, while a car of St. Paul April-May's brought up to 3c. f. o. b. that point for export. Country hides are featureless. Big packers are selling at such low prices that they are preferred. Country handlers are faced with a condition where they cannot buy original lots low enough to sell to tanners at the views of the latter. Trading at the River Plate for frigorifico steers has ruled quiet of late and some feel prices are a shade easier.

Calfskins have ruled slow in the West and are listed nominally unchanged. Packers want to sell and solicit bids. In a regular way, the packer market is considered nominal on a range of 5½c. to 6c. as to points for regular 8 to 15-pound weights. City's have not sold in some time in Chicago, and last brought 3¾c. for 8 to 10 pounds and 5¾c. for 10 to 15 pounds. New York City's have held steady and holdings are rather moderate. Prices on the three weights, collectors' to packers', range 35c. to 45c., 52½c. to 60c., and \$1.07½ to \$1.15.

TANNERS BUY MORE DOMESTIC PACKERS

NATIONAL MONEY AND CREDIT CONDITIONS

MONEY MARKETS

ATLANTA The demand for loans still is moderate, with ample supply of funds for all ordinary requirements. Interest rates are unchanged.

BOSTON An increase in the circulation and deposits has been more than offset by an increase in reserves of \$11,000,000, and has resulted in a further strengthening of the reserve ratio of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, which now is 77.4 per cent. The rediscount rate continues at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The market is quiet, and call money is $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The time rate is $4\frac{3}{4}$ to 5 per cent, while commercial paper is $2\frac{3}{4}$ to $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.

CHICAGO Money was somewhat easier in the local market this week, with commercial paper going at 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, and a few very choice names at $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. Over-the-counter loans are $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 per cent; brokers' loans on collateral, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent; and customers' loans on collateral, $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 per cent.

CINCINNATI The money market was dull during the entire week, with inquiry for all classes of loans light, and transactions scrutinized carefully. Rates remain firm, averaging 6 per cent. There was a slight reduction in savings accounts, resulting from interest period, but the aggregate totals have been holding up.

CLEVELAND Money remains easy in this market, interest rates holding slightly below the normal scale and loans usually limited to immediate requirements.

DALLAS Very little change is observed in conditions in the local money market, which continues quiet. Loan demands are for moderate amounts and usually for short terms.

KANSAS CITY Bank deposits are about stationary with the totals of last week. Demand for money is light. Rates range from 4 to 6 per cent.

PHILADELPHIA Rates for accommodations remain at the same level they have been for some time; that is, call money, 4 per cent; and commercial loans, $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 per cent. Commercial paper houses are quoting rates of $2\frac{3}{4}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Demand continues to hold up well, with supply scarce and a preference for ninety day-maturities prevailing.

ST. LOUIS The local money market is slightly easier, with quotations as follows: Prime commercial paper, $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 per cent; collateral loans, $4\frac{3}{4}$ to 6 per cent; warehouse receipts, $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 per cent; inter-bank loans, $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 per cent; and cattle loans, 5 to 6 per cent.

COLLECTION CONDITIONS

ATLANTA The past week brought no improvement in collections, which continue slow.

BALTIMORE Collections are about on a par with the returns reported a week ago.

BOSTON General collections are slow, being on about the same basis as they were a month ago.

BUFFALO Collections slowed up slightly the past week, and now average not better than fair.

CINCINNATI Retail collections are somewhat prompter, but wholesale payments continue slow.

CLEVELAND Improvement in mercantile collections appears to be spotty, with the average slow.

DALLAS Collections reveal no particular improvement and are being classed as fair.

DENVER Collections in this district continue slow, with payment of current accounts unimproved.

DETROIT Collections were less satisfactory than a week ago, being inclined to tighten.

JACKSONVILLE The local collection status is unimproved, largely because of continued slowness in agricultural districts.

KANSAS CITY While current accounts are being paid more promptly, the average continues slow.

LOS ANGELES In the retail trade, collections are better, but in other lines they are slow.

NEWARK Retail collections have shown a slight improvement, but wholesale payments still are tardy.

OMAHA Collections still are difficult, with considerable urging required in most instances.

PHILADELPHIA Reports of improvement are somewhat more numerous than those showing slowness.

PITTSBURGH No particular improvement has been noted in the collection situation in this district, the average continuing slow.

PORTLAND, Ore. Collection conditions are fair to unsatisfactory, with the trend toward further slowness in most trades.

ROCHESTER Despite a slight improvement in some retail branches, collections are slow, as a whole.

ST. LOUIS A slight improvement is reported in collections in the immediate Southwest, with the general average showing a betterment. Retail collections, however, continue slow.

TOLEDO While showing a slight improvement, collections generally are not better than fair.

TWIN CITIES (St. Paul-Minneapolis) The better trend in retail collections has brought the general average for the week up to fair.

INTERNATIONAL MONEY MARKETS

Announcement was made Thursday, in behalf of the Young Committee in New York, that it will seek, as its first step, to make funds available to savings and loan associations so that these institutions, in turn, can more readily finance the maturing mortgages of small home owners. Relief in such directions is of the finest and most effective type, as it promises to remove the pressure of deflation, rather than promote inflation.

The loss of gold to this market is of no significance whatever. Supplies of the metal here are so far beyond needs as a credit base, that redistribution can be regarded not merely complacently, but with a certain satisfaction. We still possess as

HEAVY SHIPMENTS OF GOLD RESUMED

much gold as we held in 1929, when credit demands were at their peak, and if further losses carry the aggregate down to the level of 1927, when the Federal Reserve expressly stimulated an outflow, it will be no cause for worry. The only unsatisfactory element is the atmosphere of fear and uncertainty which is causing the withdrawals at the moment. Fears are so pronounced that every available steamer to European shores is carrying an insurance capacity cargo of metal to London, Paris, Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva, and even Berlin. About \$60,000,000 went out last week, and the flow this week is comparable.

With these factors supreme in the market, money rates this week have shown no material change. In the Stock Exchange money market rates for call loans were $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent throughout, while some accommodation in the outside market was arranged at as little as $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. Time loans are $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent for all maturities. There is almost no demand for accommodation, and the aggregate of loans on Stock Exchange collateral is at phenomenally low levels.

The rediscount rate holds at 3 per cent, but it possesses no significance in view of the low level of borrowings and the open market operations of the Reserve system. Bankers' acceptances, reflecting the purchases of government securities, hold at 1 per cent bid and $\frac{7}{8}$ asked for thirty to ninety-day maturities, and $1\frac{1}{8}$ bid and $1\frac{1}{4}$ asked for longest dates. Commercial paper is unchanged at 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, depending on names and maturities. Treasury borrowing for the short dates of Treasury

Encouragement found in stated view of Young Committee to finance small mortgages. Gold withdrawals approximate \$60,000,000 in week, but movement causes no concern here. Money rates unchanged, in face of small borrowing activity. Leading Continental exchanges and sterling move against dollar.

discount bills was done at a record figure Monday, when \$60,000,000 of ninety-one-day instruments were awarded at an average discount of only 0.29 per cent. These bills find their way immediately into the Federal Reserve portfolio.

In London an interesting development was an announcement in the House of Commons, Wednesday, by Walter E. Elliot, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, that Great Britain does not intend to return to the gold standard, at least so long as gold prices behave as they do.

Foreign exchange rates moved this week almost as a unit against the dollar, owing to the fears of inflation here. Even sterling, which is carefully controlled under the exchange stabilization scheme, tended to mount, and it no doubt required stern

EXCHANGES MOVE AGAINST DOLLAR

measures to prevent an enormous advance. French and Swiss francs, belgas, guilders, lire, marks, the Scandinavian units and even pesetas tended to rise. The leading currencies are all above the upper gold points and the heavy outflow of metal from New York to Europe is a natural result. Latin-American units were unchanged, with all the central banks exercising careful control. Japanese yen were steady, despite the general expectation of a decided move toward inflation in that country under the new government. Chinese and Indian currencies advanced a little.

Daily closing quotations of foreign exchange (bankers' bills) in the New York market follow:

	Thurs. May 19	Fri. May 20	Sat. May 21	Mon. May 23	Tues. May 24	Wed. May 25
Sterling, checks...	3.67%	3.67%	3.67%	3.67%	3.68%	3.68%
Sterling, cables...	3.67%	3.67%	3.67%	3.67%	3.68%	3.69%
Paris, checks...	3.94%	3.94%	3.94%	3.94%	3.94%	3.94%
Paris, cables...	3.94%	3.94%	3.94%	3.94%	3.94%	3.95%
Berlin, checks...	23.86%	23.86%	23.82%	23.73%	23.65%	23.65%
Berlin, cables...	23.86%	23.86%	23.84%	23.75%	23.67%	23.70%
Antwerp, checks...	14.03%	14.03%	14.01%	14.01%	14.01%	13.99%
Antwerp, cables...	14.04%	14.03%	14.02%	14.02%	14.01%	14.01%
Lire, checks...	5.14%	5.14%	5.14%	5.13%	5.13%	5.12%
Lire, cables...	5.14%	5.14%	5.14%	5.14%	5.13%	5.13%
Swiss, checks...	19.58%	19.58%	19.58%	19.54%	19.54%	19.58%
Swiss, cables...	19.59%	19.58%	19.59%	19.55%	19.55%	19.59%
Gullders, checks...	40.56%	40.53%	40.52%	40.51%	40.48%	40.55%
Gullders, cables...	40.57%	40.54%	40.53%	40.52%	40.49%	40.58%
Pesetas, checks...	8.22%	8.24%	8.22%	8.22%	8.23%	8.25%
Pesetas, cables...	8.23%	8.25%	8.23%	8.23%	8.24%	8.26%
Denmark, checks...	20.14%	20.12%	20.09%	20.09%	20.09%	20.05%
Denmark, cables...	20.15%	20.13%	20.10%	20.10%	20.10%	20.10%
Sweden, checks...	18.71%	18.89%	18.96%	18.84%	18.85%	18.82%
Sweden, cables...	18.72%	18.90%	18.91%	18.85%	18.86%	18.87%
Norway, checks...	18.43%	18.39%	18.39%	18.39%	18.34%	18.34%
Norway, cables...	18.44%	18.40%	18.40%	18.40%	18.35%	18.39%
Greece, checks...	.66%	.66%	.66%	.66%	.66%	.66%
Greece, cables...	.66%	.66%	.66%	.66%	.66%	.66%
Portugal, checks...	3.38%	3.36%	3.36%	3.36%	3.36%	3.36%
Portugal, cables...	3.40%	3.38%	3.38%	3.38%	3.38%	3.38%
Australia, checks...	2.94%	2.93%	2.93%	2.93%	2.94%	2.94%
Australia, cables...	2.95%	2.94%	2.94%	2.94%	2.95%	2.95%
Montreal, demand...	88.12%	87.62%	86.94%	86.68%	87.00%	87.50%
Argentina, demand...	25.20%	25.20%	25.20%	25.20%	25.20%	25.20%
Brazil, demand...	7.20%	7.20%	7.20%	7.20%	7.20%	6.95%
Chile, demand...	6.10%	6.10%	6.10%	6.10%	6.10%	6.07%
Uruguay, demand...	47.50%	47.50%	47.50%	47.50%	47.50%	47.25%

GRAIN MARKETS IRREGULAR

by H. G. SEELY

The grain markets seesawed during most of the week, with weather reports the dominating influence in the fluctuations in both directions. Sensational private reports of heavy losses in the hard Winter wheat State on Monday brought an advance of $1\frac{1}{4}$ c. to $1\frac{5}{8}$ c. on the Chicago Board of Trade, but this gain was about cancelled by the losses on Tuesday, when rains in Kansas brought free selling. Eastern buying came into the market at mid-week and sponsored a rally of $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to $\frac{3}{4}$ c. in the face of rain in the Winter wheat belt and weakness in stocks.

Commission house observers reported severe acreage abandonment in Nebraska and Kansas, while the Nebraska mid-month report placed the condition of the Winter crop at 58, compared with 72 a month ago, and 96 a year ago. New crop prospects remained the dominant factor in the wheat market situation, and reports of further deterioration in the United States Winter wheat crop, particularly in Kansas and Nebraska, were a strengthening influence in domestic markets. The crop suffered

WEATHER REPORTS INFLUENCE TREND

severely from dry weather during the week in Texas, Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado. Damage from Hessian fly infestation was reported in Texas and Kansas. Trade estimates now place the Kansas crop at only 70,000,000 to 80,000,000 bushels, and the Colorado crop at 4,000,000 bushels. Spring wheat, on the other hand, made excellent progress both in the United States and Canada. Seeding now is practically completed in Canada, with moisture ample for germination.

Winter wheat in Europe made favorable progress, on the whole, in most sections, but the crop is later than last season in several countries, as a result of the late, cold Spring. Additional moisture is needed in Poland, Czechoslovakia and Spain. Russian seeding of Spring wheat was only about one-half accomplished on May 10, with 32,536,000 acres reported seeded to that date. Supplies of native wheat are reported low in the deficit areas of Europe, and demand for foreign wheat has increased. Shipments from surplus areas of Europe, however, have decreased with only 168,000 bushels shipped from Black Sea ports during the week.

Pacific Coast markets did not follow the advance at Eastern points, because of the dull local demand and lack of export inquiry for wheat and flour. California wheat markets were somewhat unsettled, but trading was of small volume.

Corn was draggy during most of the week, reports that farmers were planting the yellow grain in place of wheat proving a bearish factor. The planting season now is nearly over, with good growing conditions prevailing over much of the corn belt. Corn advanced $\frac{3}{8}$ c. to $\frac{5}{8}$ c. Monday, lost $\frac{1}{4}$ c. to 1c. on Tuesday and $\frac{3}{8}$ c. to $\frac{5}{8}$ c. up to mid-week.

Oats moved in fairly narrow range during most of the sessions, advancing a major fraction on Monday, losing most of the gain the next day, and closing irregular on Wednesday. Rye swung the widest of any of the coarse grains, an advance of $\frac{3}{8}$ c. to 1c. on Monday being followed Tuesday by a break of $1\frac{5}{8}$ c. to 2c. The Wednesday close was $\frac{3}{8}$ c. to $\frac{5}{8}$ c. higher. The chief interest in rye centers in the export possibilities, as Germany is expected to enter the market in the near future.

The United States visible supply of grains for the week, in bushels, was: Wheat, 169,555,000, off 1,164,000; corn, 20,562,000, off 1,134,000; oats, 11,133,000, up 41,000; rye, 9,174,000, off 20,000; barley, 2,352,000, up 70,000.

Daily closing quotations of grain options in the Chicago market follow:

	Thurs. May 19	Fri. May 20	Sat. May 21	Mon. May 23	Tues. May 24	Wed. May 25
WHEAT:						
May	55½	57½	58½	60	58½	59½
July	57½	58½	59½	61½	59½	60½
September	59½	60½	61½	63	61½	62½
CORN:						
May	30½	30½	31	31½	31½	30½
July	32½	33	33½	33½	32½	32½
September	34½	35½	35½	36	35	35
OATS:						
May	22½	23½	22½	23½	22½	22½
July	22½	22½	22½	23½	22½	23
September	21½	22½	22½	23½	23	23
RYE:						
May	37½	38	38½	39½	37½	37½
July	39½	40½	41	41½	39½	39½
September	40½	41½	41½	42½	41½	41½

The grain movement each day is given in the following table, with the week's total, and comparative figures for last year:

	Wheat		Flour,	Corn
	Western	Atlantic	Atlantic	Western
	Receipts	Exports	Exports	Receipts
Wednesday	535,000	343,000	4,000	172,000
Thursday	717,000	201,000	1,000	179,000
Friday	868,000	303,000	5,000	189,000
Saturday	1,389,000	300,000	3,000	408,000
Monday	1,639,000	835,000	1,000	341,000
Tuesday	822,000	152,000	2,000	221,000
Total	5,965,000	1,634,000	16,000	1,510,000
Last Year	9,233,000	1,884,000	109,000	2,006,000

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